

Low-Cost, High-Quality LED Product
Manufacturing

Examining Challenges and Opportunities Throughout the Supply Chain



CREE

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What Do the Customers Expect from SSL Solutions

- Sustained and Consistent Illumination Performance
 - Little or No Maintenance Required Throughout the Expected Service Life of the Product





- Predictable Economic Performance
 - High Reliability / Low Risk Illumination Performance
 Throughout the Installed Life of the Product



General SSL Opportunities

- The Ability to Address Illumination
 Challenges in More Ways Than Before
 - More Products and More Product Configurations
 - Illumination performance Optimizing
 - Economic Fine Tuning

Optimized Balance = Lowest Total Cost of Ownership





Resulting Manufacturing Challenges

- Avoiding Heavier/Expensive Inventory
 - Keeping Inventory in Lowest Common Denominator
 Form
 - No Sub-Assemblies or Finished Goods Inventory





Resulting Manufacturing Challenges

- Requires Expeditious Order Processing and Product Build
 - More Robust Enterprise Resource Planning
 - Reducing Lead Times
 - Increased Order-to-Cash Velocity









Resulting Manufacturing Challenges

- Requires Optimized Manufacturing Space Utilization
 - Low Manufacturing Space to Throughput Ratio
 - Flexible Manufacturing Technologies
 - Supports Rapid Innovation
 - Supports a "Future Proof" Manufacturing Philosophy



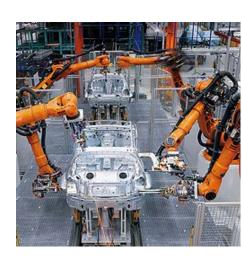


Is More Automation the Answer?

- Speed and Accuracy
 - Predictability
 - Quality Assurance
- Specialized Automation vs. Flexible Automation
 - Avoid Automation Investments that Confine Innovation
 Potential and Product Lifecycle Management
 - Product Lifecycles Will Be Shorter by Comparison
 - Industry Wide Innovation Will Occur at an Accelerated Rate









Is More Automation the Answer?

- DFMA for Low Cost or <u>No</u> Automation Requirements?
 - Simplified Full Mechanical Assemblies
 - Avoid Processes Cure Times, Heating, etc...





Managing Manufacturing Process Risks

"In-Process" Performance and Quality Validation

Goals

- Verify and Document Performance Metrics as Part of the Manufacturing Process
- Identify conditions that may lead to performance compromises or failures



Examples:

- Leak Testing
- Photometric Testing (Color and Absolute Intensity)
- General Mechanical Integrity Testing
- Etc.



- Done With No Compromises In Assembly Time
- Data Tied to / Embedded in the Luminaire Serial Number



Can US Manufacturing Be Globally Competitive?

- Potential Risks of Offshore Manufacturing
 - Transportation Risks
 - Dynamic Workforce
 - Quality Control Challenges
 - Tariffs
 - Economic Uncertainty...







Can US Manufacturing Be Globally Competitive?

- Potential Opportunities for US Manufacturing
 - Global Products (compared to incumbents)
 - Universal electrical compatibility (not locally defined)
 - Broad compliance possibilities

- Workforce Stability Through Investment in Employees
 - Evolving Technology
 - Growth Industry
 - Very Low Market Penetration





 Availability of Natural Resources and Manufacturing Technologies





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